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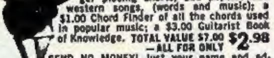

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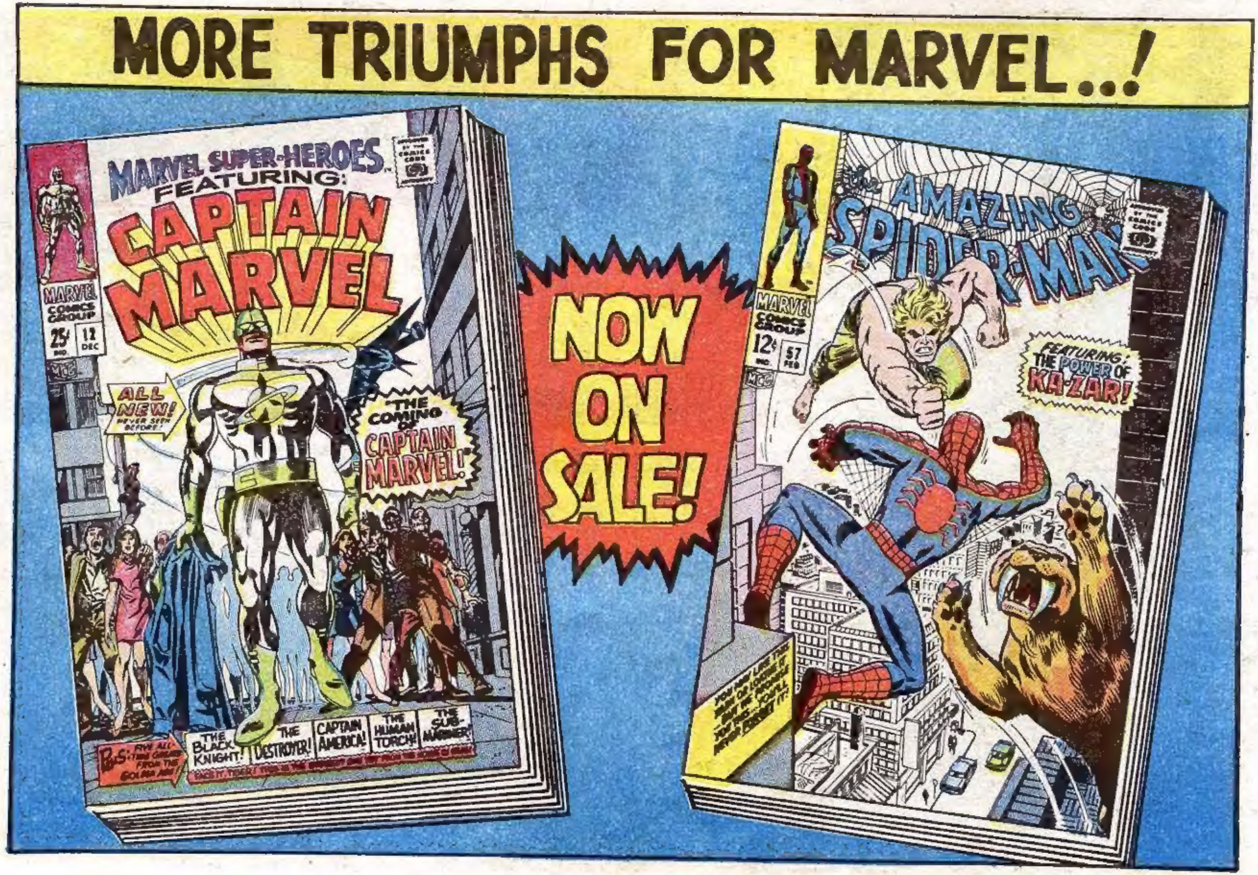

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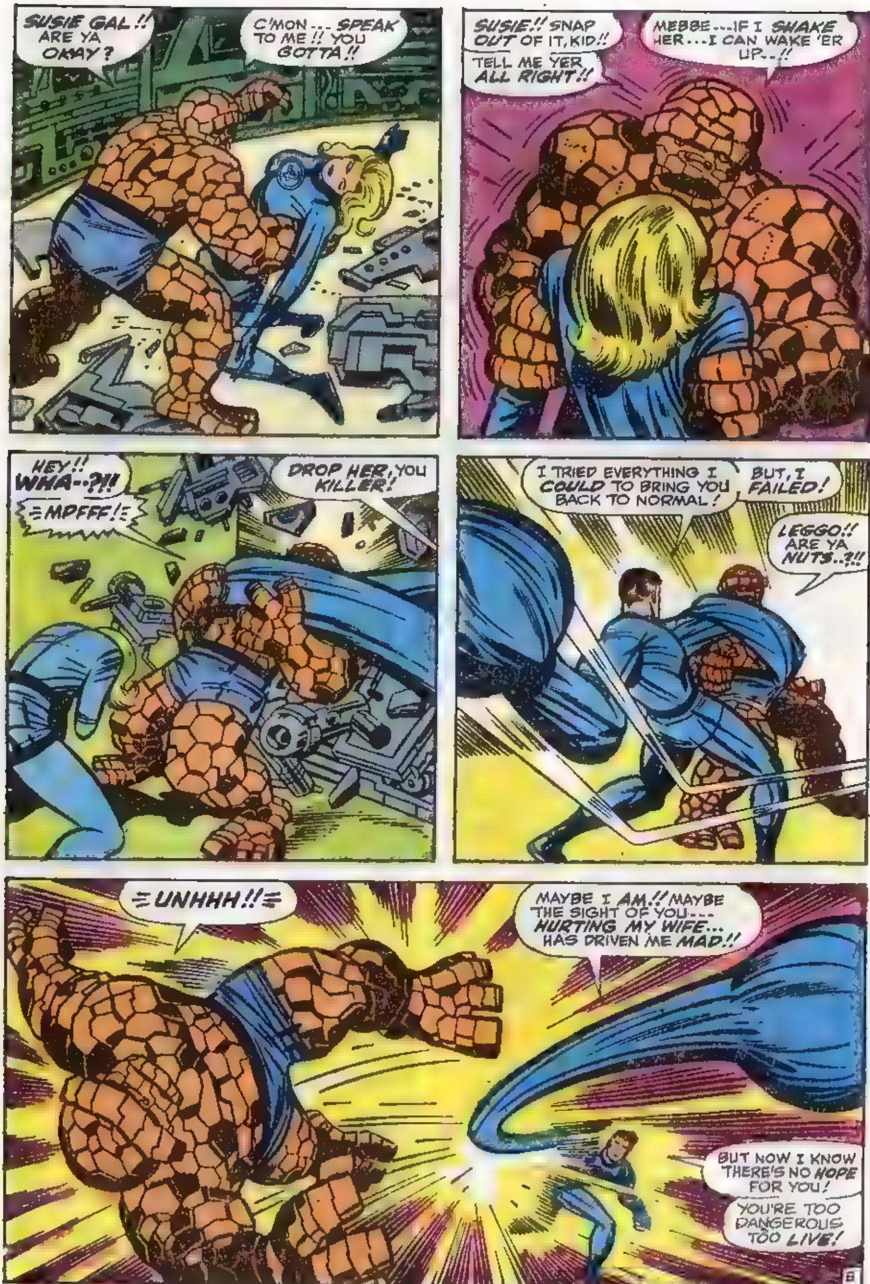

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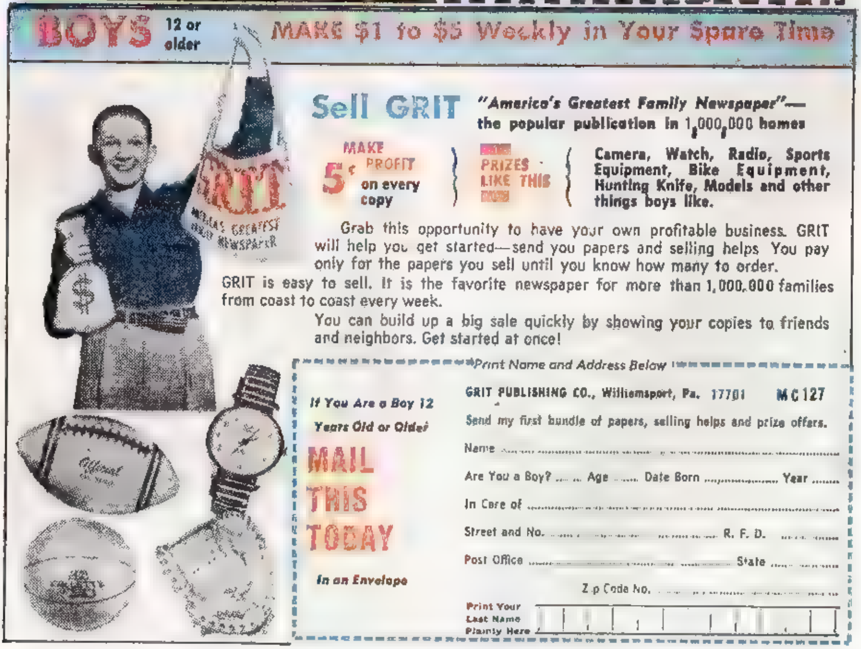

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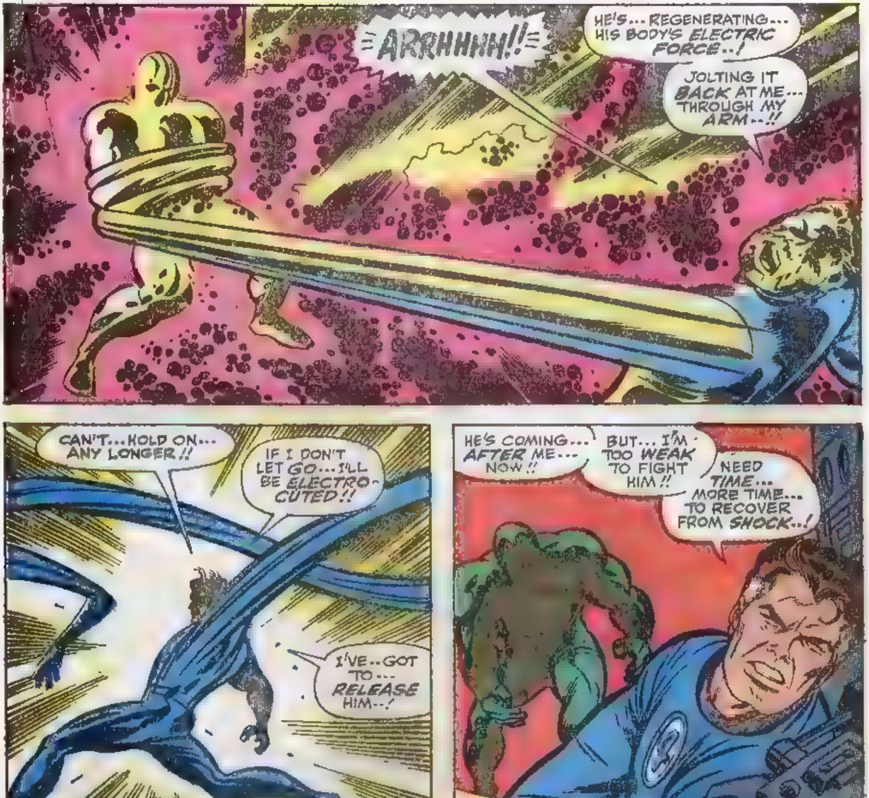

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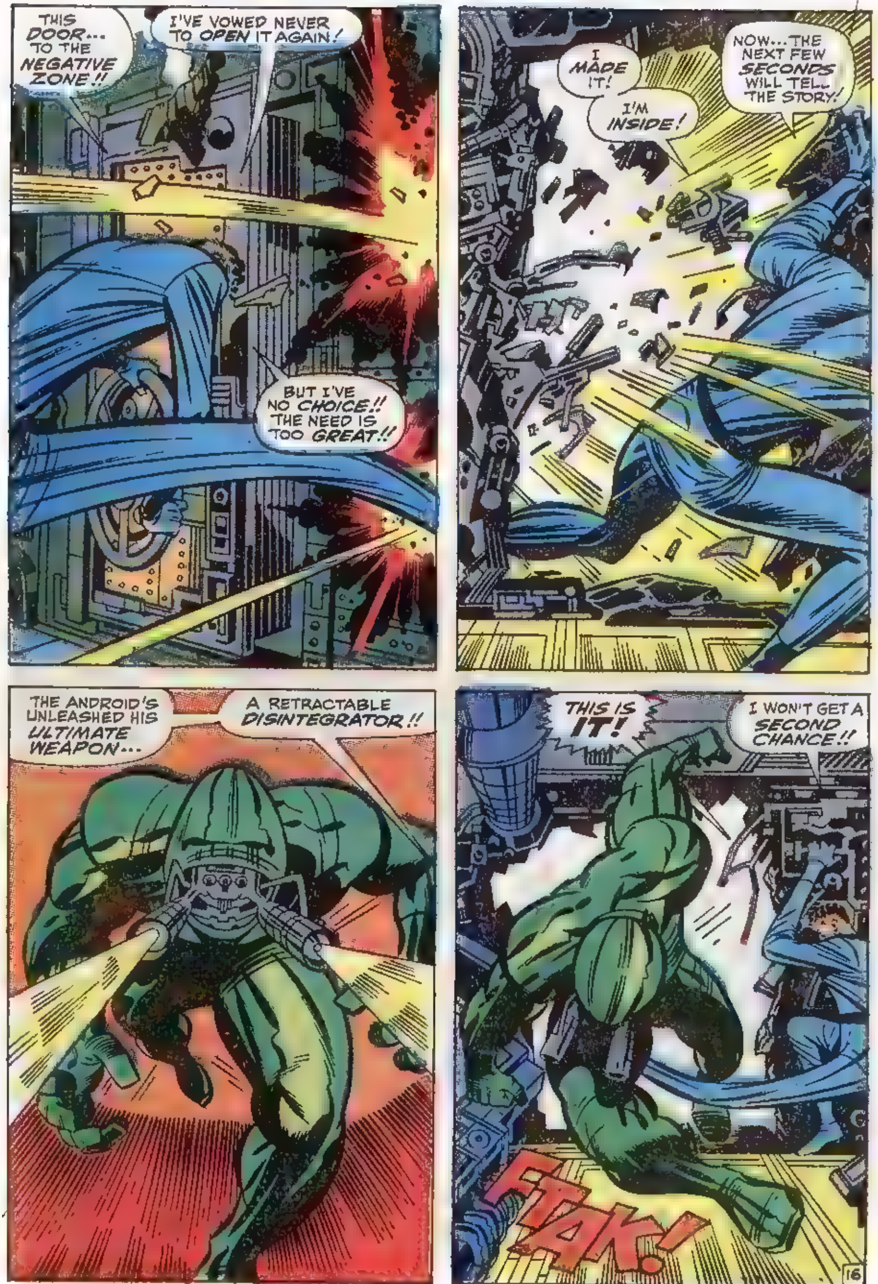

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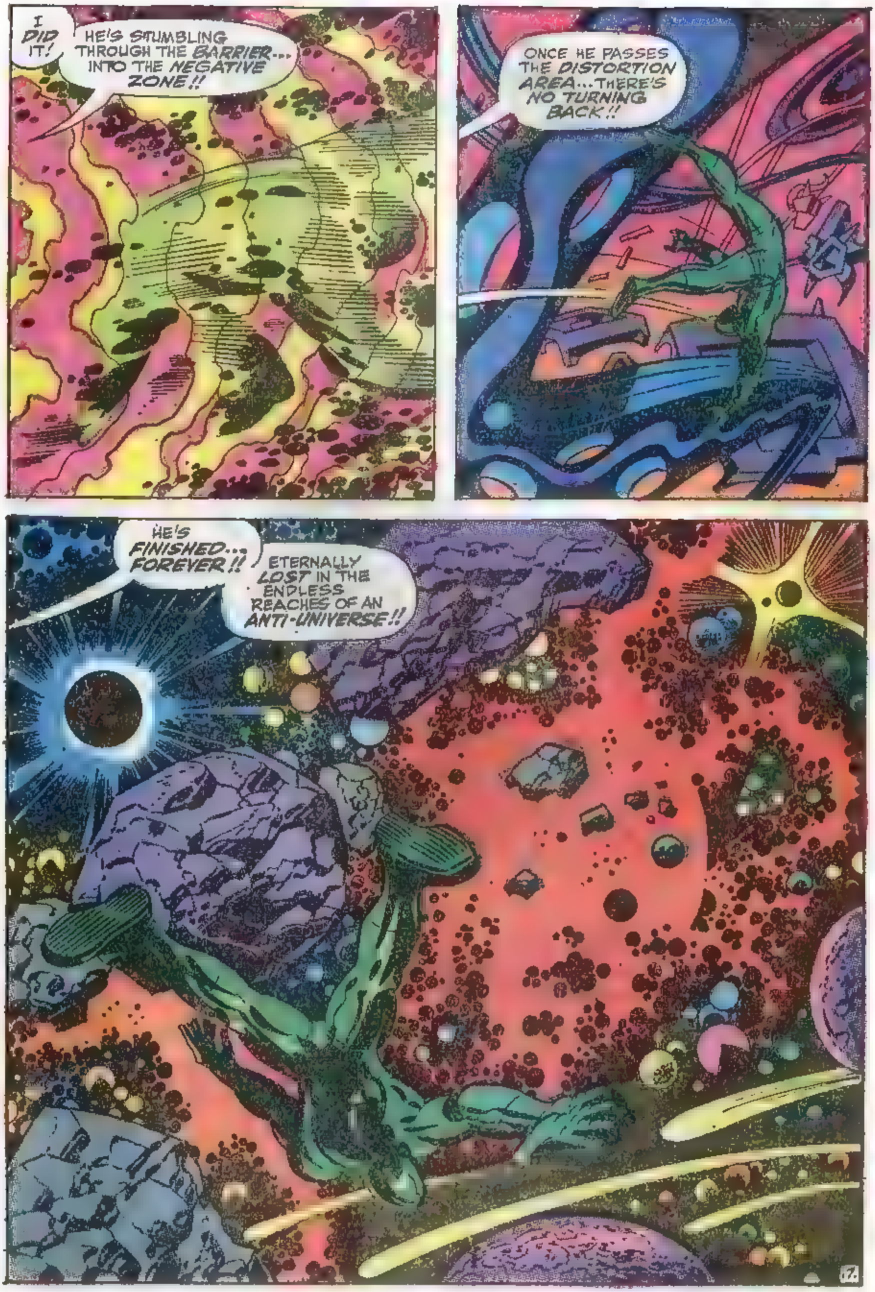

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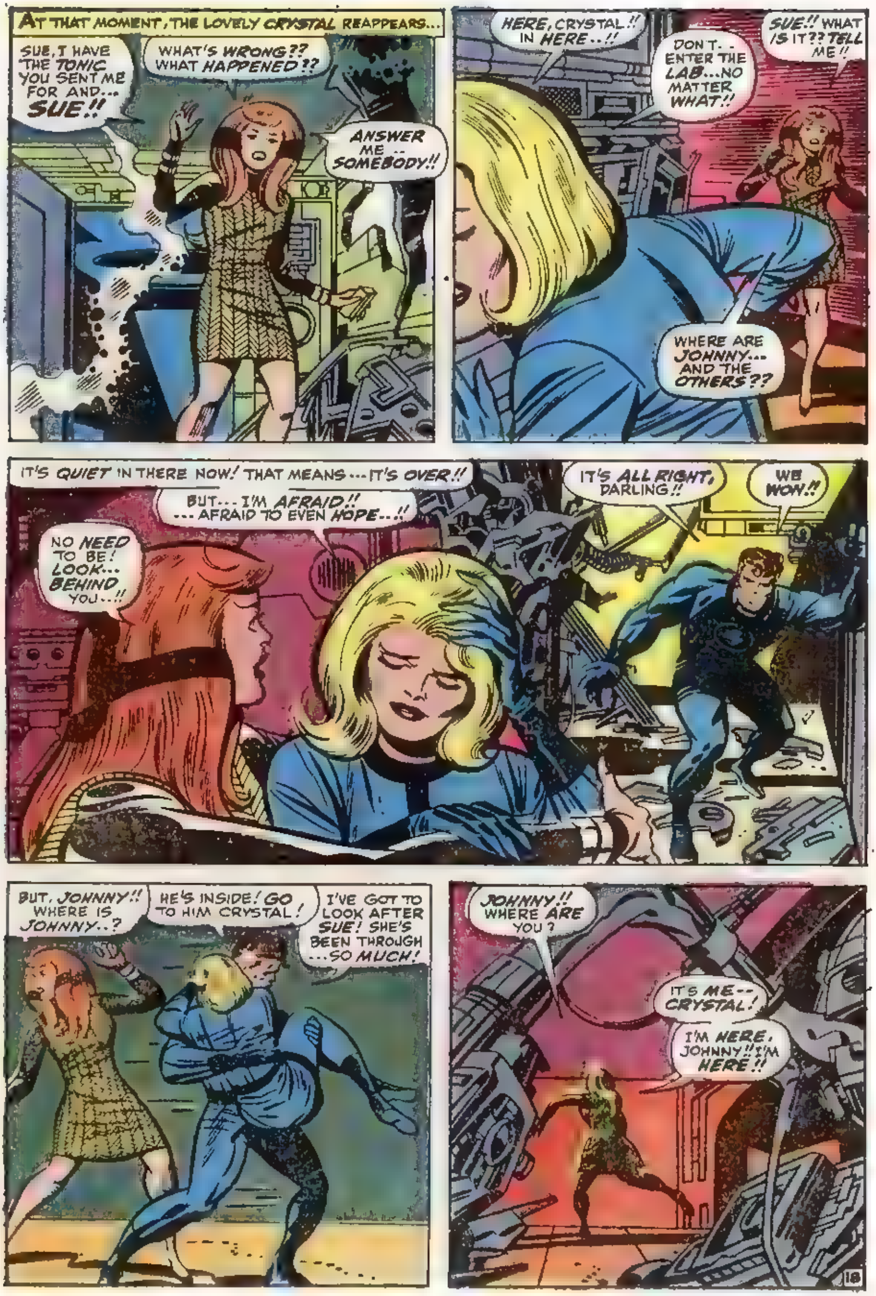

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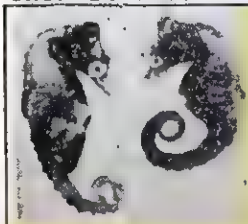

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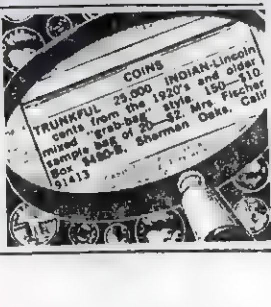

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FACE FRONT! HANG LOOSE! 'NUFF SAID!

(It's Easier Than Thinking Up A New Title!)

ITEM! You asked for it! And now you've got it! For the zillions of zingy zealots who can't get enough of SGT. FURY AND HIS HOWLING COMMANDOS, we've finally added another block-busting battle bonanza to our lineup named CAPT SAVAGE AND HIS LEATHERNECK RAIDERS! It's on sale right now, written by Groovy Gary, penciled by Darlin' Dick, and inked by a new Marvel old-timer — or an old Marvel newcomer, if you prefer — none other than **SYD (The Kid) SHORES** who illustrated many of our top strips during the First Golden Age of Comics — strips such as Captain America, The Black Rider, The Blonde Phantom, and others which only Honest Irv remembers! Anyway, if you like Fury, ol' Savage will boot you outta your fox-hole! So move it, Marvelite, while they last!

ITEM! And, speaking of new titles from the House of Ideas, we're keeping the great first ish of CAPTAIN MARVEL — featured in MARVEL SUPER-HEROES — on sale for an extra month, to give you collectors an extra thirty days to latch onto this irreplaceable premiere issue. We've got mighty big plans for CAPTAIN MARVEL, so we strongly advise you to get with him now, in order to be in at the very beginning!

ITEM! Whoops! Before we forget — don't dare miss our action-packed 100th Anniversary ish of TALES TO ASTONISH, now on sale. It features, for the first time, a complete, book-length thriller in which the Sub-Mariner battles the Incredible Hulk — pencilled by Marvel-ous **MARIE SEVERIN** and embellished by Dapper **DANNY ADKINS**! And **STAN THE MAN's** script is nothing to complain about, either. Need we say more?

ITEM! It's official! Lonesome **GEORGE TUSKA** is now back with us to stay! Two-Fisted Mr. T. was one of our mainstays way back when we had some of the most rugged adventure yarns of all. But then he took a long leave of absence to illustrate the Buck Rogers newspaper strip . . . returning briefly some months back to help us in a pinch. But now, he's back for good, although we won't tell you which mags he's appearing in — we thought you'd get a kick out of searching for him!

ITEM! Yessir! Marvel's really hitting its stride right now — and remember, this is only the beginning! Those of you who've been clamoring for more writers, more artists, and especially more magazines, are in for some very pleasant surprises in the months to come. Not the least of these surprises is our recent acquisition of the talented services of Artful ARCHIE GOODWIN as Marvel's newest stupefyin' script-writer! Ol' Arch had been editor and head writer (No, Irving, that doesn't mean he wrote on heads!) for another publishing company until recently when he saw the light and entered the sanctified realm of True Believers. He's cutting his teeth on IRON MAN and the ever-noble SUB-MARINER, but after that the sky's the limit. Who knows? He may even someday reach the halcyon heights of writing MILLIE THE MODEL!

ITEM! Okay — grab your pencils and get ready for the next assignment. We've the latest title of Marveldom for you to memorize. Remember the first two we gave you? We started with RFO (Real Frantic One), to be used by those who buy three or more Marvel mags a month. Then, we segued into QNS (Quite 'Nuff Sayer), the appellation for those favored few who've had one or more letters published on any of our pulsatin' pages. And now — the third rank of Marveldom Assembled — the three letters which are destined to become an everlasting part of literary lore and legendom — namely, **TTB** (Titanic True Believer), the hard-earned and well-deserved title for anyone who has ever won a noteworthy, non-negotiable **No-Prize!** But, we still have a couple of more titles waiting backstage, so don't miss this page next month, when we clue you in on the munificent meaning of — K.O.F. Till then, back to our itinerant items —

THE WRAP-UP! What say we tie the whole thing up with another confusing collection of capricious comments from our light-hearted leader — ? (No, Irving, light-hearted — not light-headed! SHEEESH!)

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Every day the mail brings a few requests from our far-flung legions of loyal ones, asking us to explain what in the name of Aunt Petunia the little stamp at the upper right-hand corner of our covers really means. You know, the one that reads: Approved By The Comics Code Authority. Well, just as the motion picture industry has a self-regulatory agency to insure the propriety of its product — so too does the comics magazine industry. Any periodical which might contain offensive or unacceptable material cannot win that little stamp which appears upon all our covers. It's just as simple as that. Now then, we've often been asked how we at Marvel actually feel about having to submit our masterful yarns to an outside agency for approval. Our answer is, we're delighted to do it. After all, the Comics Code Authority and your batty Bullpen share the same overall objectives — we both want the stories you read to remain within the bounds of good taste. Our creative surge is in no way stifled by this process — our employment of satire is in no way curtailed — and we enjoy the same elements of literary and artistic freedom as any other practitioners of the arts in any other media. The Comics Code Authority asks us to do nothing that we would not do even if they weren't in existence. So, to those of you who've been wondering — that's the story. And, before we sign off, we'd like to tip our hat to Code Administrator Len Darvin and his sagacious staff for the truly excellent work they've done in a difficult and ofttimes thankless job. — Excelsior!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvelous Mags on Sale Right Now!

NOT BRAND ECHH #6: It's almost too funny to describe! Our big love-and-marriage issue! Spidey-Man gets engaged — an' wait 'til you see to whom! The Human Scorch gets married and meets his in-laws! And don't miss our most mystical superhero's roll ckin' romance with a Brand Echh heroine! It's wild!

SPIDER-MAN #57: The one you've been waiting for! A confused, dazed Spider-Man battles the unbeaten Ka-Zar, lord of the jungle — and his saber-toothed tiger, Zabu! Any questions, man?

AVENGERS #48: From out of the night sky comes the grim, dark-clad form of . . . the new Black Knight! But, does he come as friend — or as foe? The answer'll really grab ya, tiger!

X-MEN #40: It'll take more than their dynamic new costumes to help our merry mutants when they meet the most famous monster in history — none other than Frankenstein's monster! Hooo boy!

DAREDEVIL #35: As if the blistering battle between ol' Hornhead and the terrible Trapster isn't enough, we can safely promise you the most unexpected surprise of the year when you reach the end of this landmark issue!

THOR #148: Not since the never-to-be-forgotten Absorbing Man has mighty Thor faced a foe like the Wrecker!! But now, against the most deadly of menaces, our hero's power is at its lowest ebb! Not for the timid!

CAPTAIN MARVEL, starring in MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #12: This fabulous introductory issue is still on sale! If you can still find a copy don't dare miss it! Captain Marvel is destined to become the most provocative superhero of the year — and Gentleman Gene's awesome artwork is really something else! We kid thee not!

SUSPENSE #98: Iron Man battles Whiplash in the most memorable mishmash of modern mayhem you've ever thrilled to! And wait'll you see Captain America fighting side-by-side with the bludgeoning Black Panther! This is for action-lovers!

ASTONISH #100: The greatest anniversary issue of all! You'll gape at the earth-pounding battle between the Hulk and Sub-Mariner — all in one double-length tale, as a mind snapping tribute to Green-skin and our water logged Subby!

STRANGE TALES #165: Nick Fury faces the power-mad Yellow Claw in a battle to decide the fate of humanity — and there was no name we could give our Dr. Strange epic except . . . "Nightmare!" 'Nuff said!

SGT. FURY, #50: The Howlers lead the great Allied assault on Tarawa in a desperate attempt to rescue Izzy Cohen — only to find that 'On the Beach Waits . . . Death!' This one you dare not miss!

CAPTAIN SAVAGE #1: The power-packed premiere of a pulse-pounding new battle-mag bombshell — in the great SGT. FURY tradition! It's destined to become a contemporary combat classic!

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #13: Wouldja believe the F.F., ol' Shell-head, the Hulk, Dr. Strange, and the Watcher — all in one ish? Well, you better, frantic one!

MARVEL TALES #12: The mostest in mighty Marvel memorabilia starring Spidey, Torchy, Thor, and the wonderful Wasp — and all for only a quarter! Hooo boy!

Let's meet 26 more M.M.M.S. members!

Julie Nemer, Hillsborough, Calif
Pete Limoges, Desormeaux, Quebec
Brad Herrington, Reseda, Calif
Pete [illegible], New York, N.Y.
Frank Kelley, [illegible], Ky
[illegible], Vancouver, B.C.
John Kalman, Lincoln Park, Mich
Randy [illegible], [illegible], B.C.
Rocky [illegible], Harwood, Ill
Emanuel Havis, Cleveland, Ohio
Ray Hanrahan, [illegible], Calif
Gary C Brenck, College Point, N.Y.
Robert Rouse, Clintonville, Wisc.
Charles [illegible], Wethersfield, Conn.
D Hobgood, Durham, N.C.
Nan Robinson, Beaman, Okla
Steven Rabe, Freehold, N.J.
Frank Reed, Afton, Iowa
Steve Nivens, Akron, Ohio
Rick Knopps, Syracuse, N.Y.
Richard Krajicek, Gretna, Neb
Mark Hahn, Chicago, Ill.
John Natloes, Artgy, N.M.
Anne Lammond, Arlington, Va
David Higgins, Pueblo, Colo.
Bruce Lowry, Van Nuys, Calif.

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Fantastic Four (4) Fan Page

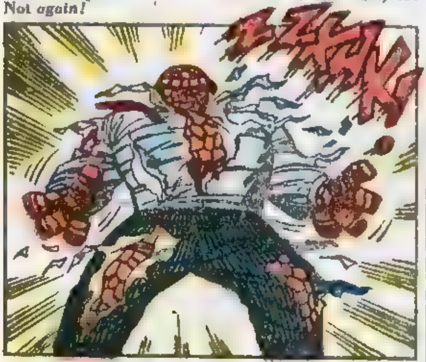
Send letters to LEE and KIRBY
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP
SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AV
NEW YORK 10022 N. Y.

Dear Stan and Jack,

The F.F. SPECIAL was beyond belief! I went from cover to cover without even stopping to take a breath. You only made one mistake — in the credits you list Joe Sinnott as the inker, when credit should be given to Frank Giacoia for inking this masterpiece — shouldn't it? I was overjoyed to see the Inhumans, Black Panther, Silver Surfer, and Stan and Jack (?) — that was a plot? I was glad to see Frank Giacoia on Iron Man and SHIELD as he's one of my favorite inkers. Jim Steranko's artwork in STRANGE TALES #162 was fabulous. It's about time you got rid of Tales of Asgard, and you couldn't have picked a better replacement. Lastly, but not leastly, I've got to hand it to Larry Lieber on the job he did on the SPIDER-MAN SPECIAL. I will restrain myself from further praise so you guys won't have eyestrain all the time.

John Arvites, 128 Maple Ave.
Wilmette, Illinois

That* kind of eyestrain we can put up with *anytime*, Johnny boy! And chalk up one no-prize for yourself for catching our calamitous credit boo-boo! It was, as you so nobly noticed, none other than fearless Frank Giacoia who inked this year's F.F. SPECIAL! The way we're handing out our valuable no-prizes lately, it won't be long before we run out of them! Then what'll we do with all our left-over no-stamps? Maybe we can offer a no-prize for the best solution to our — *Oh, no! Not again!



Dear Stan and Jack,

I would like to know how Mr. Fantastic pulls himself back together after he stretches. It doesn't look as though he can pull himself together at will. As an example, you often show him hanging around all unraveled. Please, please explain!

Wayne Cobb, 1419 Pitner
Evanston, Ill. 60201

All right, already — but first, give us a chance to dust off our copy of "Marvel's Manual of Instant Answers to Scientific Queries!" There, we've got it . . . and now, we quote from page forty-five: "Although after extensive expanding Reed Richards can return his body to normal at will, his powers can be overtaxed! When this occurs, he must gradually let the molecular structure of his body return to normal at its own pace!" How's *that* for the straightest answer of the year?

Dear Stan and Jack,

F.F. SPECIAL #5 was excellent. The story was great, the art was great, the inking was great, and even Benjy was great! Stretcho's surprise announcement added just the touch of realism that only Marvel can portray. Just think, a real live honest-to-gosh baby — and Ben a godfather! As usual, the pinups were marvel-ous. But I did, alas, find one mistake. In the Surfer saga, our silvery friend mentions that nowhere else in the universe did beings slay harmless creatures for sport. But if memory serves me correctly, did not all True Believers witness Morrat, in the company of Princess Arnelle (both of the Skrull Galaxy), slay defenseless creatures for his own pleasure in F.F. #37? And, I might add, against the Princess's wishes! The prosecution rests!

Jerome Colwell, 120 Wharf Rd.
Capitola, Cal.

Then, if it please the court, the defense is prepared to begin! We do not deny that said Morrat did indeed slay harmless creatures for sport in said past issue! However, is it not possible that said Silver Surfer missed that particular hunting party? And is it not possible that other beings of said Skrull Galaxy do not partake of the sport known as hunting? Unless the honorable prosecutor has other information on which to base his case, we ask that the court dismiss the charges for lack of evidence! Then, for your kind and generous decision, we thank you, Judge Forbush! Court is adjourned! (Whew!)

Dear Stan and Jack,

Everytime I read an issue of the F.F. featuring the Silver Surfer, I ask myself two questions — how can one be so strong yet so helpless? How can one have so much knowledge yet be so ignorant? I feel for and with the Silver Surfer. I worry about him as a fellow being and as a character. His character is changing for the worse. Where he was once a being with his own moral code, he is becoming a being with a moral code much like our own. Where he was once an outsider trying to understand human emotion, he now feels them himself. He is more human than you or I as far as emotion is concerned. I know people will disagree with me on this but I feel that the SS should be stripped of his power. He is too ignorant to possess the power he now possesses. He may not be as lucky next time as he was with Quasimodo and the Hulk. He could unleash a horrible menace on the Earth as he did with Quasimodo. The Silver Surfer beith unworthy! So be it! 'Nuff sayeth I!

Esau Simmons, 383 E. 143 St.
Bronx, N. Y. 10454

We'll buy that! If you'd said any more, we'd be out of one swingin' silver-colored surfer! However, since it isn't just *every* world that's lucky enough to have a ho-daddy like him shooting pipelines in the sky — we kinda think we'll keep him around! Who knows — if nothing else, maybe we can get him a part in one of those bouncy beach flicks!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Today, after an especially frantic waiting period from last month, F.F. #67 came out. "Oh boy", thought I, "I'll bet the ol' F.F. are really going to have a great rock 'em and sock 'em story." That's what I thought. Sorry to say, I was somewhat disillusioned. It seems to me that this ish was really mashy. I mean I've seen some dillies but this takes the cake. Then I thought it must be an optical illusion. Stan Lee wouldn't completely skip over the action which has made the F.F. the "World's Greatest Comic Magazine." So I made a scientific survey, using the famed scientific method taught me by Miss Fuzz' book on advanced geneues for backward 3rd graders. The Thing, famed for his direct method for dealing with baddies, appeared in 32 panels. Yet, of those 32, he was doing something active like tearing apart machines in only 3! The Torch runs a close second in being active. He ap-

Now hear this! Please keep all letters no longer than ONE PAGE! Have mercy, mellow ones!

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peared in a mere 24 panels, and was flamed on in only 7. As for Mr. Fantastic, he wasn't fantastic very often, and Mrs. Richards didn't become invisible even once! Now fair's fair, and I understand that you're only human, but gee willikers, please have more action! I'm down on my knees asking you – did you ever try to type on your knees? Anyway, I've one more point to make. Why don't the F.F. have a pet? Take the Torch for an example – are you going to deny this normal lad the right to his own puppy? Perhaps Lockjaw could have puppies, if you don't mind incidentals like the fact that Lockjaw's a male. None of your heroes have pets. Peter Parker's got a motorbike, but how many motorbikes do you know that wag their tails when you pat them? It would seem that Marvel is distinctly against animals! Thanks for your time.

Charles Smith, 421 E. Maryland Ave.
St. Paul, Minn. 55101

Don't mention it, Charlie! But we'd really appreciate it if you'd get the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals off our backs! What do we have to *do* to prove our proclivity for pets? Can't you just see titles like "The Fantastic Felines!", "Daredoggie!", and "The Mighty Mongrels!"? We'll think your idea over, though! If nothing else, maybe the Sub-Mariner could get a pet guppy!

Dear Stan and Jack,

This is to inform you wonderful guys that your most terrific creation, as seen through my eyes, is not an immortal, an all-powerful alien, or a scientifically bred Inhuman, but rather a man called Reed Richards. He is my favorite Marvel character. He speaks not in the "I'm hip" manner of Daredevil and Spidey, nor the illiterate fashion of Nick Fury, Ben Grimm, or Hawkeye. I never get tired of hearing him explain things like the "universal molecular atom disrupter" because it not only is a change from the usual "see a villain, fight a villain, beat a villain" story line, but also because it brings forth the true wizard-like talents of Stan and Jack!

Corbett Besco, Rt. #3, Box 123
Ironton, Ohio 45638

We sort-of agree with you, Corby – but did you have to put it in those exact words? Ever since they read your liltin' letter, we haven't been able to get The Man and The King off that blasted yellow brick road! And if they're not skipping along with some chick named Dorothy, they're trying to send the rest of the Bullpen to Kansas in a balloon! You don't suppose . . . ? Naaah, not a chance!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Despite a fan's objections and your obviously reluctant retraction, the Silver Surfer had it right the first time in F.F. #61. He said, "Throughout the galaxies . . . on every distant star . . . one truth is known . . . that which is reaped must one day be sown." The three postulations for the creation of the universe each state in different ways that the matter which comprises the physical universe today was present before in a different form, and some time in the future will make up a different universe. The "pulsating" or "cycle" theory says that the universe expands and contracts in long cycles; the "steady state" theory says that the "dust" from stars which are destroyed clots together to make other stars; the "big bang" theory postulates an exploding universe rushing outward into a space which many say is curved back on itself. Anyway, what the Silver Surfer obviously saw in his travels throughout the universe was that everyone who has some effect upon the matter in the universe today changes to some degree the character of the next universe. Thus, what we do today, especially the super-heroes who have a greater effect upon the world, will one day be sown in another future. So you were right at first, and you didn't know it! Your comics are often slow in getting over here, so this letter is probably too late to have any bearing upon what is by now a forgotten subject, but I just wanted to let you know that some of us enjoy amplifying the thoughts in your books.

L/Cpl. Alan K. Gray, 2239368 USMC,
DPP-10, H&S Co., FLSG-A, FMFPAC,
FPO, San Francisco, Cal. 96602

And some of the thoughts in our mags certainly need amplifying, Corp! Just to show how grateful we are to you for explainin' that one, we're gonna send you a genuine, thought-provoking, laboratory-tested no-prize! Then maybe you can explain *that* to us!

Dear Stan and Jack,

After reading F.F. #67 and witnessing the birth of Him, I just had to write. You have truly hit upon something big with the introduction of the orange (gold?)-skinned, blonde, husky, handsome, powerful, and wise entity known as Him. What really grabbed me was the cocoon with the row of protruding growth on each side and the energy ring near the top which gave the impression that Him was to be an insect-like monster. The cocoon captured the element of surprise when, lo and behold, the true appearance of Him was revealed. You, who have introduced such characters to support the F.F. as the Black Panther, Silver Surfer, and the Inhumans, have again brought another remarkable character into the light to take his place among all of Marveldom. Many thanks, Stan and Jack, for yours is the touch that makes this the Marvel Age of Comics!

Richard Adams, Rt. #1, Box 439
Oakland, Md. 21550

And yours are the words which keep the Marvel Age of Capricious Confusion merrily marching along, tiger! As long as we get letters like yours to massage our minds and salve our souls, you can bet your centerfold pin-up of Aunt Petunia that we'll keep sockin' it to you! Only one thing bothers us . . . who Him?

Dear Stan and Jack,

Speaking of your F.F. ANNUAL #5, the best part was the Silver Surfer feature at the end. The Silver Surfer must have his own comic book – a full 20 pages. Please take a chance and publish him in his own book. Larry Lieber can pencil it since we've seen the fine job he did in the SPIDEY SPECIAL. I must just mention that on page 18, last panel in the Special, the Psychoman says, "With Component Four now in my possession . . ." but on page 3, 5, and 8, it is referred to as Component Five! Wha' happened?

Terrence Mule, 4848 Opal Ave.
Norridge, Ill. 60656

Whattya mean, *wha' happened?* We mentioned that component on four different pages and only goofed once – and *you're complaining? We* think we deserve a plethora of plausive praise for 75% accuracy!

NEXT ISH: This one you must not miss! It sets the stage for much of the wonderment which is yet to come! You'll see a gallant Reed Richards make one of the most dramatic sacrifices in all of comicdom! You'll see the startling decision of the Invisible Girl! You'll see a great new super-villain posing a deadly new danger to the greatest superhero team of all time! You'll see Stan and Jack at the peak of their talents, depicting the Thing and the Torch at the peak of their power! You'll see sights which none but a True Believer wouldst dare behold! In short, O Faithful One, you'll see why now, more than ever, the fabulous FF is truly the World's Greatest Comic Magazine! (You'll also see a heartbroken Bullpen weep if you miss FANTASTIC FOUR #72—and we know you'd never want *that* to happen!) Excelsior!

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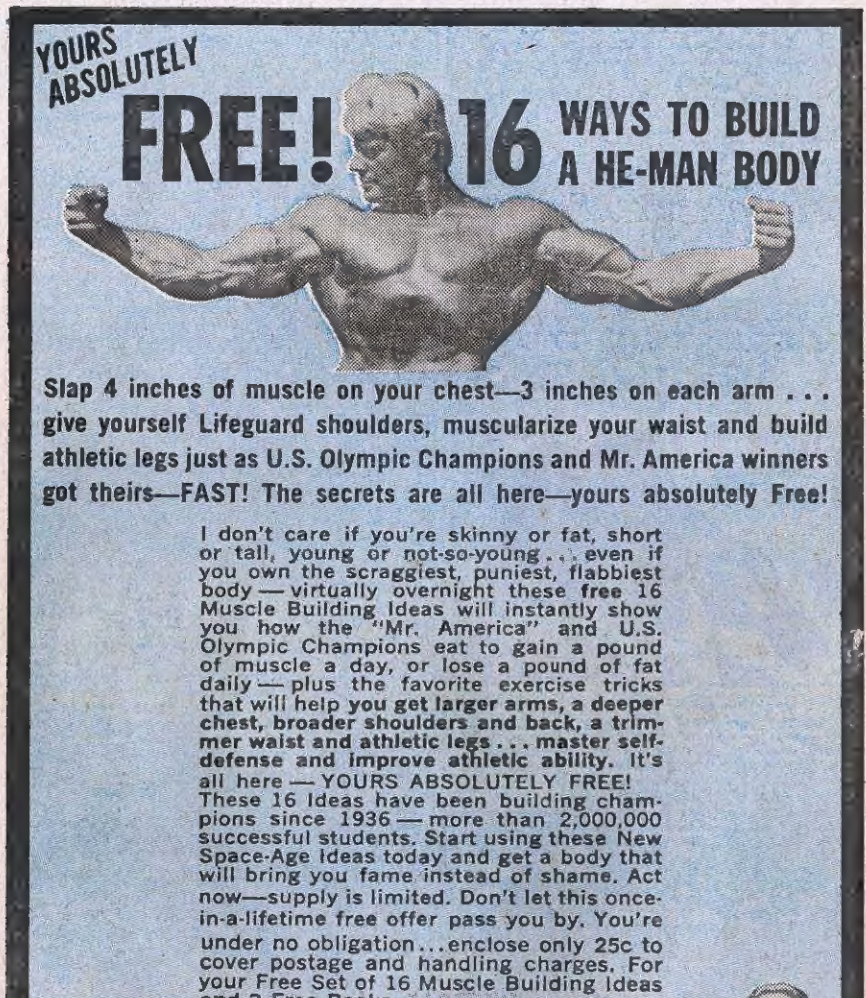

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NORMAN ROCKWELL—America's most beloved artist. He is a founder and member of the Guiding Faculty of the Famous Artists Schools.

"We're looking for people who like to draw"

says NORMAN ROCKWELL

Today hundreds of men and women who never thought they could be artists are working at easels and drawing boards, making pictures and getting well paid for it. They all can thank a group of famous artists who have devoted much of their time and talent to helping others find success in art.

Some of the People the Famous Artists Have Helped

Carl Koch was an 18 year old apprentice in a Chicago art studio when he enrolled. Today he prepares ads for such companies as General Motors and Firestone—has won five gold medals.

Howard Sanden of Minneapolis took the Course while still in high school. He is now a successful artist —last year he and his wife traveled through Europe and the Middle East on important art assignments.

Paul Sullivan enrolled at 14. His Famous Artists training helped him work his way through college.

Stan Bowen, father of three children, was trapped in a dull, low-paying job. By studying with FAS he became a sought-after illustrator, has opened his own studio.

With Famous Artists training Rosemary Roberts was hired by a top department store as an artist—with a big chance to advance.

Oregon housewife Helen Tryk lives 150 miles from the nearest big city. But she does fashion illustration, has her own studio, runs an art workshop, does portraits.

A Plan to Help Others

It started over 18 years ago when a group of America's most successful artists—men like Albert Dorne, Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Al Parker and Stevan Dohanos—met in New York City. They knew that all over America there were people who liked to draw who could be turned into good artists. Albert Dorne asked, "Why can't we give these people the training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years?"

He suggested a new kind of art school—a home study art school—that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live.

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they created a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here's-how" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, they developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

The famous artists with the School are not surprised at the success of their students. The opportunities open to successful artists today are enormous. The School continually gets calls from all over the country asking for practical well-trained students—not geniuses—who can step into full-time or part-time art jobs. And practical, thorough training is what the School offers.

Famous Artists Talent Test

To find others with art talent worth developing, the Famous Artists created a 12-page talent test. Thousands paid to take this test, but now the School offers and grades it free. Men and women who do well on the test —or offer other evidence of art talent —may enroll in the School. But there's no obligation. Simply mail the coupon below.

FOUNDING FACULTY OF FAMOUS ARTISTS SCHOOLS

NORMAN ROCKWELL	FRED LUDEKENS
JON WHITCOMB	BEN STAHL
AL PARKER	ROBERT FAWCETT
STEVAN DOHANOS	AUSTIN BRIGGS
GEORGE GIUSTI	HAROLD VON SCHMIDT
PETER HELCK	ALBERT DORNE

Famous Artists Schools
Studio 5621, Westport, Conn.

I would like to find out whether I have art talent worth developing. Please send me, without obligation, your Famous Artists Talent Test and information about your courses.

Mr.
Mrs. ______________ *Age*______
Miss ◄ *Circle one and please print*

*Street*______________________

*City*______________________

*State*______________ *Zip*______

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